

COMBINATORIAL FORMULAS FOR MACDONALD AND HALL-LITTLEWOOD POLYNOMIALS OF TYPES A AND C

EXTENDED ABSTRACT

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ABSTRACT. A breakthrough in the theory of (type A) Macdonald polynomials is due to Haglund, Haiman and Loehr, who exhibited a combinatorial formula for these polynomials in terms of fillings of Young diagrams. Recently, Ram and Yip gave a formula for the Macdonald polynomials of arbitrary type in terms of the corresponding affine Weyl group. In this paper, we show that a Haglund-Haiman-Loehr type formula follows naturally from the more general Ram-Yip formula, via compression. Then we extend this approach to the Hall-Littlewood polynomials of type C , which are specializations of the corresponding Macdonald polynomials at $q = 0$. We note that no analog of the Haglund-Haiman-Loehr formula exists beyond type A , so our work is a first step towards finding such a formula.

1. INTRODUCTION

Macdonald [14, 15] defined a remarkable family of symmetric orthogonal polynomials depending on parameters q, t , which bear his name. These polynomials generalize several other symmetric polynomials related to representation theory. For instance, at $q = 0$, the Macdonald polynomials specialize to the Hall-Littlewood polynomials (or spherical functions on p -adic groups), and they further specialize to the Weyl characters (upon setting $t = 0$ as well). There has been considerable interest recently in the combinatorics of Macdonald polynomials. This stems in part from a combinatorial formula for the ones corresponding to type A , which is due to Haglund, Haiman, and Loehr [5], and which is in terms of fillings of Young diagrams. This formula uses two statistics on the mentioned fillings, called “inv” and “maj”. The Haglund-Haiman-Loehr formula already found important applications, such as new proofs of the Schur positivity for Macdonald polynomials [2, 4]. Let us also note that there is a version of the Haglund-Haiman-Loehr formula for the non-symmetric Macdonald polynomials [6], as well as a different formula for these polynomials due to Lascoux [8].

Schwer [18] gave a formula for the Hall-Littlewood polynomials of arbitrary type (cf. also [16]). This formula is in terms of so-called alcove walks, which originate in the work of Gaussent-Littelmann [3] and of the author with Postnikov [10, 11] on discrete counterparts to the Littelmann path model [12, 13]. Schwer’s formula was recently generalized by Ram and Yip to a similar formula for the Macdonald polynomials [17]. The generalization consists in the fact that the latter formula is in terms of alcove walks with both “positive” and “negative” foldings, whereas in the former only “positive” foldings appear.

In this paper, we relate the Ram-Yip formula to the Haglund-Haiman-Loehr formula. More precisely, we show that we can group the terms in the type A version of the Ram-Yip formula into equivalence classes, such that the sum in each class is a term in a new formula, which is similar to the Haglund-Haiman-Loehr one but contains considerably fewer terms. An equivalence class consists of all the terms corresponding to alcove walks that produce the same filling of a Young diagram λ (indexing the Macdonald polynomial) via a simple construction. In fact, in this paper we require that the partition λ is a regular weight; the general case will be considered elsewhere.

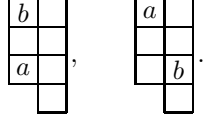
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We define a reading order on the cells of λ as the total order given by considering the columns from right to left (largest to smallest), and by reading each column from top to bottom. Note that this is a different reading order than the usual (French or Japanese) ones.

Definition 2.4. An inversion of σ is a pair (u, v) of attacking cells, where u precedes v in the considered reading order and $\sigma(u) > \sigma(v)$. Let $\text{Inv}(\sigma)$ denote the set of inversions of σ .

Here are two examples of inversions, where $a < b$:



The *arm* of a cell $u \in \lambda$ is the number of cells strictly to the left of u in the same row; similarly, the *leg* of u is the number of cells strictly below u in the same column.

Definition 2.5. The *maj* and *inv* statistics on fillings σ are defined by

$$\text{maj}(\sigma) := \sum_{u \in \text{Des}(\sigma)} \text{arm}(u), \quad \text{inv}(\sigma) := |\text{Inv}(\sigma)| - \sum_{u \in \text{Des}(\sigma)} \text{leg}(u).$$

We are now ready to state a new combinatorial formula for the Macdonald P -polynomials in the variables $X = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$.

Theorem 2.6. Given a partition λ with $n - 1$ distinct parts, we have

$$(1) \quad P_\lambda(X; q, t) = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{T}(\lambda, n)} t^{n(\lambda) - \text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} \left(\prod_{u \in \text{Diff}(\sigma)} \frac{1 - t}{1 - q^{\text{arm}(u)} t^{\text{leg}(u) + 1}} \right) x^{\text{content}(\sigma)}.$$

3. HALL-LITTLEWOOD POLYNOMIALS OF TYPE C_n

In this section we present a new formula for the Hall-Littlewood polynomials of type C in terms of fillings of Young diagrams. This formula will be derived by compressing Schwer's formula [18] (cf. also [16]).

Let $\lambda = (\lambda_1 > \dots > \lambda_n > 0)$ be a partition with n distinct parts for a fixed $n \geq 2$ (this corresponds to a dominant regular weight for the root system of type C_n). Consider the shape $\hat{\lambda}$ obtained from λ by replacing each column of height k with k or $2k - 1$ (adjacent) copies of it, depending on the given column being the first one or not. We are representing a filling σ of $\hat{\lambda}$ as a concatenation of columns C_{ij} and C'_{ik} , where $i = 1, \dots, \lambda_1$, while for a given i we have $j = 1, \dots, \lambda'_i$ if $i > 1$, $j = 1$ if $i = 1$, and $k = 2, \dots, \lambda'_i$; the columns C_{ij} and C'_{ik} have height λ'_i . The diagram $\hat{\lambda}$ is represented in “Japanese style”, like in the previous section, i.e., the heights of columns increase from left to right; more precisely, we let

$$\sigma = C^{\lambda_1} \dots C^1, \quad \text{where } C^i := \begin{cases} C'_{i2} \dots C'_{i, \lambda'_i} C_{i1} \dots C_{i, \lambda'_i} & \text{if } i > 1 \\ C'_{i2} \dots C'_{i, \lambda'_i} C_{i1} & \text{if } i = 1. \end{cases}$$

Note that the leftmost column is $C_{\lambda_1, 1}$, and the rightmost column is C_{11} . For an example, we refer to Section 6.

Essentially, the above description says that the column to the right of C_{ij} is $C_{i, j+1}$, whereas the column to the right of C'_{ik} is $C'_{i, k+1}$. Here we are assuming that the mentioned columns exist, up to the following conventions:

$$(2) \quad C_{i, \lambda'_i + 1} = \begin{cases} C'_{i-1, 2} & \text{if } i > 1 \text{ and } \lambda'_{i-1} > 1 \\ C_{i-1, 1} & \text{if } i > 1 \text{ and } \lambda'_{i-1} = 1, \end{cases} \quad C'_{i, \lambda'_i + 1} = C_{i1}.$$

We consider the alphabet $[\overline{n}] := \{1 < \dots < n < \overline{n} < \overline{n-1} < \dots < \overline{1}\}$, where the barred entries are viewed as negatives, so that $-\overline{i} = i$. Next, we consider the set $\mathcal{T}(\widehat{\lambda}, \overline{n})$ of fillings of $\widehat{\lambda}$ with entries in $[\overline{n}]$ which satisfy the following conditions:

- (1) the rows are weakly decreasing from left to right;
- (2) no column contains two entries a, b with $a = \pm b$;
- (3) any two adjacent columns are related as indicated below.

In order to explain the mentioned relation between adjacent columns, we consider right actions of type C reflections on columns (see Section 6). For instance, $C(a, \overline{b})$ is the column obtained from C by transposing the entries in positions a, b and by changing their signs. Let us first explain the passage from some column C_{ij} to $C_{i,j+1}$. There exist positions $1 \leq r_1 < \dots < r_p < j$ (possibly $p = 0$) such that $C_{i,j+1}$ differs from $D = C_{ij}(r_1, \overline{j}) \dots (r_p, \overline{j})$ only in position j , while $C_{i,j+1}(j) \notin \{\pm D(r) : r \in [\lambda'_i] \setminus \{j\}\}$ and $C_{i,j+1}(j) \leq D(j)$. To include the case $j = \lambda'_i$ in this description, just replace $C_{i,j+1}$ everywhere by $C_{i,j+1}[1, \lambda'_i]$ and use the conventions (2). Let us now explain the passage from some column C'_{ik} to $C'_{i,k+1}$. There exist positions $1 \leq r_1 < \dots < r_p < k$ (possibly $p = 0$) such that $C'_{i,k+1} = C'_{ik}(r_1, \overline{k}) \dots (r_p, \overline{k})$. This description includes the case $k = \lambda'_i$, based on the conventions (2).

Let us now define the content of a filling. For this purpose, we first associate with a filling σ a compressed version of it, namely the filling $\overline{\sigma}$ of the partition 2λ . This is defined as follows:

$$(3) \quad \overline{\sigma} = \overline{C}^{\lambda_1} \dots \overline{C}^1, \quad \text{where } \overline{C}^i := C'_{i2} C_{i1},$$

where the conventions (2) are used again. Now define $\text{content}(\sigma) = (m_1, \dots, m_n)$, where m_i is half the difference between the number of occurrences of the entries i and \overline{i} in $\overline{\sigma}$.

We now define two statistics on fillings that will be used in our compressed formula for Hall-Littlewood polynomials. Intervals refer to the discrete set $[\overline{n}]$. Let

$$\sigma_{ab} := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } a, b \geq \overline{n} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Given a sequence of integers w , we write $w[i, j]$ for the subsequence $w(i)w(i+1)\dots w(j)$. We use the notation $N_{ab}(w)$ for the number of entries $w(i)$ in the interval (a, b) .

Given two columns D, C of the same height d such that $D \geq C$ in the componentwise order, we will define two statistics $N(D, C)$ and $\text{des}(D, C)$ in some special cases, as specified below.

Case 0. If $D = C$, then $N(D, C) := 0$ and $\text{des}(D, C) := 0$.

Case 1. Assume that $C = D(r, \overline{j})$ with $r < j$. Let $a := D(r)$ and $b := D(j)$. In this case, we set

$$N(D, C) := N_{ba}^-(D[r+1, j-1]) + |(\overline{b}, a) \setminus \{\pm D(i) : i = 1, \dots, j\}| + \sigma_{ab}, \quad \text{des}(D, C) := 1.$$

Case 2. Assume that $C = D(r_1, \overline{j}) \dots (r_p, \overline{j})$ where $1 \leq r_1 < \dots < r_p < j$. Let $D_i := D(r_1, \overline{j}) \dots (r_i, \overline{j})$ for $i = 0, \dots, p$, so that $D_0 = D$ and $D_p = C$. We define

$$N(D, C) := \sum_{i=1}^p N(D_{i-1}, D_i), \quad \text{des}(D, C) := p.$$

Case 3. Assume that C differs from $D' := D(r_1, \overline{j}) \dots (r_p, \overline{j})$ with $1 \leq r_1 < \dots < r_p < j$ (possibly $p = 0$) only in position j , while $C(j) \notin \{\pm D'(r) : r \in [d] \setminus \{j\}\}$ and $C(j) \leq D'(j)$. We define

$$N(D, C) := N(D, D') + N_{C(j), D'(j)}(D[j+1, d]), \quad \text{des}(D, C) := p + \delta_{C(j), D'(j)},$$

where $\delta_{a,b}$ is the Kronecker delta.

If the height of C is larger than the height d of D (necessarily by 1), and $N(D, C[1, d])$ can be computed as above, we let $N(D, C) := N(D, C[1, d])$ and $\text{des}(D, C) := \text{des}(D, C[1, d])$. Given a filling σ

with columns C_m, \dots, C_1 , we set

$$N(\sigma) := \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} N(C_{i+1}, C_i) + \text{inv}(C_1),$$

assuming that all the terms $N(\cdot, \cdot)$ on the right-hand side are of the types described above; here $\text{inv}(C_1)$ denotes the number of (ordinary) inversions in C_1 , that is, the number of pairs $i < j$ of positions in C_1 with $C_1(i) > C_1(j)$. Furthermore, in the mentioned case, we also set

$$\text{des}(\sigma) := \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \text{des}(C_{i+1}, C_i).$$

We can now state our new formula for the Hall-Littlewood polynomials of type C . We refer to Remarks 6.6 for more comments on this formula.

Theorem 3.1. *Given a partition λ with n distinct parts, the Hall-Littlewood polynomial $P_\lambda(X; t)$ is given by*

$$(4) \quad P_\lambda(X; t) = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{T}(\tilde{\lambda}, \bar{\pi})} t^{N(\sigma)} (1 - t)^{\text{des}(\sigma)} x^{\text{content}(\sigma)}.$$

4. ALCOVE WALKS AND MACDONALD POLYNOMIALS

4.1. Root systems. We recall some background information on finite root systems and affine Weyl groups. Let \mathfrak{g} be a complex semisimple Lie algebra, and \mathfrak{h} a Cartan subalgebra, whose rank is r . Let $\Phi \subset \mathfrak{h}^*$ be the corresponding irreducible root system, $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{R}}^* \subset \mathfrak{h}^*$ the real span of the roots, and $\Phi^+ \subset \Phi$ the set of positive roots. Let $\rho := \frac{1}{2}(\sum_{\alpha \in \Phi^+} \alpha)$. Let $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r \in \Phi^+$ be the corresponding simple roots. We denote by $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ the non-degenerate scalar product on $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{R}}^*$ induced by the Killing form. Given a root α , we consider the corresponding coroot $\alpha^\vee := 2\alpha/\langle \alpha, \alpha \rangle$ and reflection s_α .

Let W be the corresponding Weyl group, whose Coxeter generators are denoted, as usual, by $s_i := s_{\alpha_i}$. The length function on W is denoted by $\ell(\cdot)$. The Bruhat order on W is given by its covers $w \leq ws_\beta$, where $\beta \in \Phi^+$, and $\ell(ws_\beta) = \ell(w) + 1$.

The weight lattice Λ is given by $\Lambda := \{\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{R}}^* : \langle \lambda, \alpha^\vee \rangle \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ for any $\alpha \in \Phi$. The weight lattice Λ is generated by the fundamental weights $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_r$, which form the dual basis to the basis of simple coroots, i.e., $\langle \omega_i, \alpha_j^\vee \rangle = \delta_{ij}$. The set Λ^+ of dominant weights is given by $\Lambda^+ := \{\lambda \in \Lambda : \langle \lambda, \alpha^\vee \rangle \geq 0\}$ for any $\alpha \in \Phi^+$. Let $\mathbb{Z}[\Lambda]$ be the group algebra of the weight lattice Λ , which has a \mathbb{Z} -basis of formal exponents $\{x^\lambda : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$ with multiplication $x^\lambda \cdot x^\mu := x^{\lambda+\mu}$.

Given $\alpha \in \Phi$ and $k \in \mathbb{Z}$, we denote by $s_{\alpha, k}$ the reflection in the affine hyperplane

$$(5) \quad H_{\alpha, k} := \{\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{R}}^* : \langle \lambda, \alpha^\vee \rangle = k\}.$$

These reflections generate the affine Weyl group W_{aff} for the dual root system $\Phi^\vee := \{\alpha^\vee : \alpha \in \Phi\}$. The hyperplanes $H_{\alpha, k}$ divide the real vector space $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{R}}^*$ into open regions, called alcoves. The fundamental alcove A° is given by

$$A^\circ := \{\lambda \in \mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{R}}^* : 0 < \langle \lambda, \alpha^\vee \rangle < 1 \text{ for all } \alpha \in \Phi^+\}.$$

4.2. Alcove walks. We say that two alcoves A and B are adjacent if they are distinct and have a common wall. Given a pair of adjacent alcoves $A \neq B$ (i.e., having a common wall), we write $A \xrightarrow{\beta} B$ if the common wall is of the form $H_{\beta, k}$ and the root $\beta \in \Phi$ points in the direction from A to B .

Definition 4.1. [10] *An alcove path is a sequence of alcoves such that any two consecutive ones are adjacent. We say that an alcove path (A_0, A_1, \dots, A_m) is reduced if m is the minimal length of all alcove paths from A_0 to A_m .*

We need the following generalization of alcove paths.

Definition 4.2. An alcove walk is a sequence $\Omega = (A_0, F_1, A_1, F_2, \dots, F_m, A_m, F_\infty)$ such that A_0, \dots, A_m are alcoves; F_i is a codimension one common face of the alcoves A_{i-1} and A_i , for $i = 1, \dots, m$; and F_∞ is a vertex of the last alcove A_m . The weight F_∞ is called the weight of the alcove walk, and is denoted by $\mu(\Omega)$.

The *folding operator* ϕ_i is the operator which acts on an alcove walk by leaving its initial segment from A_0 to A_{i-1} intact and by reflecting the remaining tail in the affine hyperplane containing the face F_i . In other words, we define

$$\phi_i(\Omega) := (A_0, F_1, A_1, \dots, A_{i-1}, F'_i = F_i, A'_i, F'_{i+1}, A'_{i+1}, \dots, A'_m, F'_\infty),$$

where $A'_j := \rho_i(A_j)$ for $j \in \{i, \dots, m\}$, $F'_j := \rho_i(F_j)$ for $j \in \{i, \dots, m\} \cup \{\infty\}$, and ρ_i is the affine reflection in the hyperplane containing F_i . Note that any two folding operators commute. An index j such that $A_{j-1} = A_j$ is called a *folding position* of Ω . Let $\text{fp}(\Omega) := \{j_1 < \dots < j_s\}$ be the set of folding positions of Ω . If this set is empty, Ω is called *unfolded*. Given this data, we define the operator “unfold”, producing an unfolded alcove walk, by

$$\text{unfold}(\Omega) = \phi_{j_1} \dots \phi_{j_s}(\Omega).$$

Definition 4.3. A folding position j of the alcove walk $\Omega = (A_0, F_1, A_1, F_2, \dots, F_m, A_m, F_\infty)$ is called a positive folding if the alcove $A_{j-1} = A_j$ lies on the positive side of the affine hyperplane containing the face F_j . Otherwise, the folding position is called a negative folding.

Let $\tau_\lambda \in W_{\text{aff}}$ denote the translation by λ . Recall the bijection $A \mapsto v_A$ between alcoves and affine Weyl group elements given by $v_A(A^\circ) = A$. We now fix a dominant weight λ and a reduced alcove path $\Pi := (A_0, A_1, \dots, A_m)$ from $A^\circ = A_0$ to the alcove A_m corresponding to the minimal element in the coset $\tau_\lambda W$ under the mentioned bijection. Assume that we have

$$(6) \quad A_0 \xrightarrow{\beta_1} A_1 \xrightarrow{\beta_2} \dots \xrightarrow{\beta_m} A_m,$$

where $\Gamma := (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_m)$ is a sequence of positive roots. This sequence, which determines the alcove path, is called a λ -chain (of roots).

We also let $r_i := s_{\beta_i}$, and let \hat{r}_i be the affine reflection in the common wall of A_{i-1} and A_i , for $i = 1, \dots, m$; in other words, $\hat{r}_i := s_{\beta_i, l_i}$, where $l_i := |\{j \leq i : \beta_j = \beta_i\}|$ is the cardinality of the corresponding set. Given $J = \{j_1 < \dots < j_s\} \subseteq [m] := \{1, \dots, m\}$, we define the Weyl group element $\phi(J)$ and the weight $\mu(J)$ by

$$(7) \quad \phi(J) := r_{j_1} \dots r_{j_s}, \quad \mu(J) := \hat{r}_{j_1} \dots \hat{r}_{j_s}(\lambda).$$

4.3. The Ram-Yip formula for Macdonald polynomials. Given $w \in W$ and the alcove path Π considered above, we define the alcove path

$$w(\Pi) := (w(A_0), w(A_1), \dots, w(A_m)).$$

Consider the set of alcove paths $\mathcal{P}(\Gamma) := \{w(\Pi) : w \in W\}$. We identify any $w(\Pi)$ with the obvious unfolded alcove walk of weight $\mu(w(\Pi)) := w(\lambda)$. Let us now consider the set of alcove walks

$$\mathcal{F}(\Gamma) := \{\text{alcove walks } \Omega : \text{unfold}(\Omega) \in \mathcal{P}(\Gamma)\}.$$

We can encode an alcove walk Ω in $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ by the pair (w, J) in $W \times 2^{[m]}$, where

$$\text{fp}(\Omega) = J \quad \text{and} \quad \text{unfold}(\Omega) = w(\Pi).$$

Clearly, we can recover Ω from (w, J) with $J = \{j_1 < \dots < j_s\}$ by $\Omega = \phi_{j_1} \dots \phi_{j_s}(w(\Pi))$. We call a pair (w, J) a *folding pair*, and, for simplicity, we denote the set $W \times 2^{[m]}$ of such pairs by $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ as well. Given a folding pair (w, J) , the corresponding positive and negative foldings (viewed as a partition of J) are denoted by J^+ and J^- .

Proposition 4.4. (1) Consider a folding pair (w, J) with $J = \{j_1 < \dots < j_s\}$. We have $j_i \in J^+$ if and only if $w r_{j_1} \dots r_{j_{i-1}} > w r_{j_1} \dots r_{j_{i-1}} r_{j_i}$. (2) If $\Omega \mapsto (w, J)$, then $\mu(\Omega) = w(\mu(J))$.

We call the sequence $w, wr_{j_1}, \dots, wr_{j_1} \dots r_{j_s} = w\phi(J)$ the Bruhat chain associated to (w, J) .

We now restate the Ram-Yip formula [17] for the Macdonald polynomials $P_\lambda(X; q, t)$ in terms of folding pairs. From now on we assume that the weight λ is regular (and dominant), i.e., $\langle \lambda, \alpha^\vee \rangle > 0$ for all positive roots α .

Theorem 4.5. [17] *Given a dominant regular weight λ , we have (based on the notation in Section 4.2)*

$$(8) \quad P_\lambda(X; q, t) = \sum_{(w, J) \in \mathcal{F}(\Gamma)} t^{\frac{1}{2}(\ell(w) - \ell(w\phi(J)) - |J|)} (1-t)^{|J|} \left(\prod_{j \in J^+} \frac{1}{1 - q^{l_j} t^{\langle \rho, \beta_j^\vee \rangle}} \right) \left(\prod_{j \in J^-} \frac{q^{l_j} t^{\langle \rho, \beta_j^\vee \rangle}}{1 - q^{l_j} t^{\langle \rho, \beta_j^\vee \rangle}} \right) x^{w(\mu(J))}.$$

4.4. Schwer's formula for Hall-Littlewood polynomials. Let us now consider a reduced alcove path from A° to $A^\circ + \lambda$. The associated chain of roots Γ , defined as in (6), will be called an *extended λ -chain*. All the previous definitions can be adapted to this setup. Let $\mathcal{F}_+(\Gamma)$ consist of the folding pairs (w, J) with $J_- = \emptyset$, which will be called *positive folding pairs*.

Theorem 4.6. [16, 18] *Given a dominant regular weight λ , the Hall-Littlewood polynomial $P_\lambda(X; t)$ is given by*

$$(9) \quad P_\lambda(X; t) = \sum_{(w, J) \in \mathcal{F}_+(\Gamma)} t^{\frac{1}{2}(\ell(w) + \ell(w\phi(J)) - |J|)} (1-t)^{|J|} x^{w(\mu(J))}.$$

5. COMPRESSING THE RAM-YIP FORMULA IN TYPE A_{n-1}

We now restrict ourselves to the root system of type A_{n-1} , for which the Weyl group W is the symmetric group S_n . Permutations $w \in S_n$ are written in one-line notation $w = w(1) \dots w(n)$. We can identify the space $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{R}}^*$ with the quotient space $V := \mathbb{R}^n / \mathbb{R}(1, \dots, 1)$, where $\mathbb{R}(1, \dots, 1)$ denotes the subspace in \mathbb{R}^n spanned by the vector $(1, \dots, 1)$. The action of the symmetric group S_n on V is obtained from the (left) S_n -action on \mathbb{R}^n by permutation of coordinates. Let $\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n \in V$ be the images of the coordinate vectors in \mathbb{R}^n . The root system Φ can be represented as $\Phi = \{\alpha_{ij} := \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j : i \neq j, 1 \leq i, j \leq n\}$. The simple roots are $\alpha_i = \alpha_{i, i+1}$, for $i = 1, \dots, n-1$. The fundamental weights are $\omega_i = \varepsilon_1 + \dots + \varepsilon_i$, for $i = 1, \dots, n-1$. The weight lattice is $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}^n / \mathbb{Z}(1, \dots, 1)$. A dominant weight $\lambda = \lambda_1 \varepsilon_1 + \dots + \lambda_{n-1} \varepsilon_{n-1}$ is identified with the partition $(\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_{n-1} \geq \lambda_n = 0)$ of length at most $n-1$. We fix such a partition λ for the remainder of this section.

For simplicity, we use the same notation (i, j) with $i < j$ for the root α_{ij} and the reflection $s_{\alpha_{ij}}$, which is the transposition of i and j . Consider the following chain of roots, denoted by $\Gamma(k)$:

$$(10) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} (k, n), & (k, n-1), & \dots, & (k, k+1), \\ (k-1, n), & (k-1, n-1), & \dots, & (k-1, k+1), \\ & & \dots & \\ (1, n), & (1, n-1), & \dots, & (1, k+1). \end{array}$$

Denote by $\Gamma'(k)$ the chain of roots obtained by removing the root $(i, k+1)$ at the end of each row. Now define a chain Γ as a concatenation $\Gamma := \Gamma_{\lambda_1} \dots \Gamma_{\lambda_2}$, where

$$\Gamma_j := \begin{cases} \Gamma'(\lambda'_j) & \text{if } j = \min \{i : \lambda'_i = \lambda'_j\} \\ \Gamma(\lambda'_j) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

It is not hard to verify that Γ is a λ -chain in the sense discussed in Section 4.2. The λ -chain Γ is fixed for the remainder of this section. Thus, we can replace the notation $\mathcal{F}(\Gamma)$ with $\mathcal{F}(\lambda)$.

Example 5.1. Consider $n = 4$ and $\lambda = (4, 3, 1, 0)$, for which we have the following λ -chain (the underlined pairs are only relevant in Example 5.2 below):

$$(11) \quad \Gamma = \Gamma_4 \Gamma_3 \Gamma_2 = ((\underline{1, 4}), (1, 3) \mid (2, 4), (\underline{2, 3}), (1, 4), (\underline{1, 3}) \mid (\underline{2, 4}), (1, 4)).$$

$$\times \left(\prod_{j, (i,k) \in T_j^-} \frac{q^{\text{arm}(i,j-1)} t^{k-i}}{1 - q^{\text{arm}(i,j-1)} t^{k-i}} \right) = t^{n(\lambda) - \text{inv}(\sigma)} q^{\text{maj}(\sigma)} \left(\prod_{u \in \text{Diff}(\sigma)} \frac{1-t}{1 - q^{\text{arm}(u)} t^{\text{leg}(u)+1}} \right).$$

6. COMPRESSING SCHWER'S FORMULA IN TYPE C_n

We now restrict ourselves to the root system of type C_n . We can identify the space $\mathfrak{h}_{\mathbb{R}}^*$ with $V := \mathbb{R}^n$, the coordinate vectors being $\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n$. The root system Φ can be represented as $\Phi = \{\pm \varepsilon_i \pm \varepsilon_j : 1 \leq i < j \leq n\} \cup \{\pm 2\varepsilon_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. The simple roots are $\alpha_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1}$, for $i = 1, \dots, n-1$ and $\alpha_n = 2\varepsilon_n$. The fundamental weights are $\omega_i = \varepsilon_1 + \dots + \varepsilon_i$, for $i = 1, \dots, n$. The weight lattice is $\Lambda = \mathbb{Z}^n$. A dominant weight $\lambda = \lambda_1 \varepsilon_1 + \dots + \lambda_n \varepsilon_n$ is identified with the partition $(\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n \geq 0)$ of length at most n . We fix such a partition λ for the remainder of this section.

The corresponding Weyl group W is the group of signed permutations B_n . Such permutations are bijections w from $[\overline{n}] := \{1 < \dots < n < \overline{n} < \overline{n-1} < \dots < \overline{1}\}$ to $[\overline{n}]$ satisfying $w(\overline{i}) = \overline{w(i)}$. We use the window notation $w = w(1) \dots w(n)$. The group B_n acts on V as usual, by permuting the coordinate vectors and by changing their signs.

For simplicity, we use the same notation (i, j) with $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ for the positive root $\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j$ and the corresponding reflection, which, in the window notation, is the transposition of entries in positions i and j . Similarly, we denote by (i, \overline{j}) , again for $i < j$, the positive root $\varepsilon_i + \varepsilon_j$ and the corresponding reflection; in the window notation, the latter is the transposition of entries in positions i and j followed by the sign change of those entries. Finally, we denote by (i, \overline{i}) the positive root $2\varepsilon_i$ and the corresponding reflection, which is the sign change in position i .

Let

$$\Gamma(k) = \Gamma'_2 \dots \Gamma'_k \Gamma_1(k) \dots \Gamma_k(k),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma'_j &:= ((1, \overline{j}), (2, \overline{j}), \dots, (j-1, \overline{j})), \\ \Gamma_j(k) &:= ((1, \overline{j}), \quad (2, \overline{j}), \quad \dots, \quad (j-1, \overline{j}), \\ &\quad (j, \overline{k+1}), \quad (j, \overline{k+2}), \quad \dots, \quad (j, \overline{n}), \quad (j, \overline{j}), \\ &\quad (j, n), \quad (j, n-1), \quad \dots, \quad (j, k+1)). \end{aligned}$$

It is not hard to see that $\Gamma(k)$ is an extended ω_k -chain, in the sense discussed in Section 4.4. Hence, we can construct an extended λ -chain as a concatenation $\Gamma := \Gamma^{\lambda_1} \dots \Gamma^1$, where

$$(12) \quad \Gamma^i = \Gamma(\lambda'_i) = \Gamma'_{i2} \dots \Gamma'_{i, \lambda'_i} \Gamma_{i1} \dots \Gamma_{i, \lambda'_i}, \quad \text{and} \quad \Gamma_{ij} = \Gamma_j(\lambda'_i), \quad \Gamma'_{ij} = \Gamma'_j.$$

This extended λ -chain is fixed for the remainder of this section. Thus, we can replace the notation $\mathcal{F}_+(\Gamma)$ with $\mathcal{F}_+(\lambda)$.

Example 6.1. Consider $n = 3$ and $\lambda = (3, 2, 1)$, for which we have the extended λ -chain below. The factorization of Γ into subchains is indicated by vertical bars, while the double vertical bars separate the subchains corresponding to different columns. The underlined pairs are only relevant in Example 6.2 below.

$$\begin{aligned} (13) \quad \Gamma &= \Gamma_{31} \parallel \Gamma'_{22} \Gamma_{21} \Gamma_{22} \parallel \Gamma'_{12} \Gamma'_{13} \Gamma_{11} \Gamma_{12} \Gamma_{13} = \\ &= ((1, \overline{2}), \underline{(1, \overline{3})}, (1, \overline{1}), (1, 3), (1, 2) \parallel \underline{(1, \overline{2})}, (1, \overline{3}), (1, \overline{1}), (1, 3) \mid (1, \overline{2}), (2, \overline{3}), \underline{(2, \overline{2})}, \underline{(2, 3)} \parallel \\ &\quad (1, \overline{2}) \mid (1, \overline{3}), (2, \overline{3}) \mid (1, \overline{1}) \mid (1, \overline{2}), (2, \overline{2}) \mid (1, \overline{3}), (2, \overline{3}), (3, \overline{3})). \end{aligned}$$

Given the extended λ -chain Γ above, in Section 4.2 we considered subsets $J = \{j_1 < \dots < j_s\}$ of $[m]$, where m is the length of Γ . Instead of J , it is now convenient to use the subsequence of Γ indexed by the positions in J . This is viewed as a concatenation with distinguished factors T_{ij} and T'_{ik} induced by the factorization (12) of Γ . All the notions defined in terms of J are now redefined in terms of T . As such, from now on we will write $\phi(T)$, $\mu(T)$, and $|T|$, the latter being the size of T . If (w, J) is positive folding pair, we will use the same name for the corresponding pair (w, T) . We denote by $wT_{\lambda_1, 1} \dots T_{ij}$ and

$wT_{\lambda_1,1} \dots T'_{i_k}$ the permutations obtained from w via right multiplication by the reflections in $T_{\lambda_1,1}, \dots, T_{ij}$ and $T_{\lambda_1,1}, \dots, T'_{i_k}$, considered from left to right. This agrees with the above convention of using pairs to denote both roots and the corresponding reflections. As such, $\phi(J)$ in (7) can now be written simply T .

Example 6.2. We continue Example 6.1, by picking the positive folding pair (w, J) with $w = \overline{1} \overline{2} \overline{3} \in B_3$ and $J = \{2, 6, 12, 13\}$ (see the underlined positions in (13)). Thus, we have

$$T = T_{31} \parallel T'_{22} T_{21} T_{22} \parallel T'_{12} T'_{13} T_{11} T_{12} T_{13} = ((1, \overline{3}) \parallel (1, \overline{2}) \parallel (2, \overline{2}), (2, 3) \parallel \mid \mid \mid \mid).$$

We have the following decreasing Bruhat chain associated to (w, T) , where the modified entries are shown in bold (we represent signed permutations as broken columns, as in Example 5.2, and we display the splitting of the chain into subchains induced by the above splitting of T):

$$w = \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{1} \\ \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline \end{array} > \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \parallel \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} > \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} > \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \end{array} > \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline \end{array} \parallel \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline \end{array} \mid \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \overline{2} \\ \hline 1 \\ \hline \overline{3} \\ \hline \end{array}.$$

Given a positive folding pair (w, T) , with T split into factors T_{ij} and T'_{ik} as above, we consider the signed permutations

$$\pi_{ij} = \pi_{ij}(w, T) := wT_{\lambda_1,1} \dots T_{i,j-1}, \quad \pi'_{ik} = \pi'_{ik}(w, T) := wT_{\lambda_1,1} \dots T'_{i,k-1};$$

when undefined, $T_{i,j-1}$ and $T'_{i,k-1}$ are given by conventions similar to (2), based on the corresponding factorization (12) of the extended λ -chain Γ . In particular, $\pi_{\lambda_1,1} = w$.

Let us now recall the notation in Section 3.

Definition 6.3. The filling map is the map \hat{f} from positive folding pairs (w, T) to fillings $\sigma = \hat{f}(w, T)$ of the shape $\hat{\lambda}$, defined by $C_{ij} = \pi_{ij}[1, \lambda'_i]$ and $C'_{ik} = \pi'_{ik}[1, \lambda'_i]$.

Example 6.4. Given (w, T) as in Example 6.2, we have

$$\hat{f}(w, T) = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline \overline{1} & \overline{3} & \overline{2} & \overline{2} & \overline{2} & \overline{2} \\ \hline \overline{2} & \overline{3} & \overline{3} & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \hline 3 & 3 & 3 & & & \\ \hline \end{array}.$$

From now on, we assume that the partition λ corresponds to a regular weight, i.e., $(\lambda_1 > \dots > \lambda_n > 0)$. We will now describe the way in which the formula (4) can be obtained by compressing Schwer's formula (9). Thus, Theorem 3.1 becomes a corollary of the theorem below.

Theorem 6.5. We have $\hat{f}(\mathcal{F}_+(\lambda)) = \mathcal{T}(\hat{\lambda}, \overline{n})$. Given any $\sigma \in \mathcal{T}(\hat{\lambda}, \overline{n})$ and $(w, T) \in \hat{f}^{-1}(\sigma)$, we have $w(\mu(T)) = \text{content}(\hat{f}(w, T))$. Furthermore, the following compression formula holds for any $\sigma \in \mathcal{T}(\hat{\lambda}, \overline{n})$:

$$(14) \quad \sum_{(w, T) \in \hat{f}^{-1}(\sigma)} t^{\frac{1}{2}(\ell(w) + \ell(w\phi(T)) - |T|)} (1-t)^{|T|} = t^{N(\sigma)} (1-t)^{\text{des}(\sigma)}.$$

Remarks 6.6. The “doubled” versions of the Kashiwara-Nakashima tableaux [7] of shape λ , which index the basis elements of the irreducible representation of \mathfrak{sp}_{2n} of highest weight λ , are among the fillings $\overline{\sigma}$ (see (3)), for $\sigma \in \mathcal{T}(\hat{\lambda}, \overline{n})$. Indeed, it was proved in [1] that for each Kashiwara-Nakashima tableau there is a unique positive folding pair (w, T) whose associated Bruhat chain is saturated and ends at the identity, such that the compressed version $\overline{\hat{f}(w, T)}$ of $\hat{f}(w, T)$ is the “doubled” version of the given tableau.

(2) Consider a filling τ of λ which satisfies the following conditions: (i) the rows are weakly decreasing from left to right; (ii) two entries a, b with $a = \pm b$ cannot appear in the same column, or in two consecutive columns in positions (i, j) and $(k, j-1)$ with $i > k$. Let τ^2 be the filling of 2λ obtained by doubling each column of τ . It is not hard to see that there is a unique filling σ in $\mathcal{T}(\hat{\lambda}, \overline{n})$ such that its compressed version $\overline{\sigma}$ coincides with τ^2 . For such fillings, we can describe the statistic $N(\sigma)$ in (14) in terms of τ , in a similar way to the statistic inv of Haglund-Haiman-Loehr type in (1).

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